Douglas, Earle B. 1913

[Burlington, IA]

[Edward D. Adams, writer #2]

Burlington, Iowa.
September 23rd, 1913.

Hon. Edw. D. Adams,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir.-Was so fortunate as to secure your address in the World's Almanac as the governor of the American Numismatic Society and as I am the possessor of a curious old coin, I am taking the liberty of writing you to see if you could possibly throw any light on the history of its coinage. Will describe the piece to you as best I can.

The face or date side has three raised crowns arranged in triangular order with the date, 1710, at the apex of the triangle. At the top it bears the letters, V. E. R. S., and has peculiar milling around the edge in the shape of minute pyramids arranged with the base at the outer edge of the piece and the apexes toward the center.

The reverse side bears a crown at the top and under, a shield bearing two arrows crossed, and at the inner point of the shield two letters, but they cannot be made out as at this place the piece is quite well worn. The edge bears little diamond shaped indentations as outer milling.

This piece has been in our family for years and there is a curios little story connected with it. It is said that it was blessed by one of the Jesuit fathers, and bears the peculiar property of protecting the life of the one who bears it to war. As near as can be learned, my great, great, great grandfather bore it with him to the French- Indian war in the 1700's, serving on the French side. Certain it is that my great, great grandfather carried it with him through the Revolution, and my father carried it through the war of the Rebellion.

Hoping that you will oblige me by furnishing the information I ask for if it lies within your power, I am

Your obedient servant,

Earle B. Douglas.

P. S. If you can furnish me satisfactory evidence of the reliability of your Society, I shall be pleased to forward the piece for your inspection. Please find self addressed envelope inclossed for your reply.

509 No. 3rd Street,
Burlington, Iowa.

EDWARD D. ADAMS
SEP
29
1915
NEW YORK.

Ulrika Eleonora es ~~1719~~ ~~1730~~ YEARS, 1710 - 1719 or 1720 - 1730

(Sveda) Regina es

1719

71 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

October 9th 1913

Mr. Bauman L. Belden, Director
American Numismatic Society
156th Street West of Broadway, New York City

Dear Mr. Belden:

Will you be so kind as to answer the enclosed letter from Mr. Earle B. Douglas, and avail of the opportunity to send him one of our pamphlets that will furnish him with satisfactory evidence of the "reliability" of our Society?

Very truly yours

Edward D. Adams

Enc.

October 11th, 1913.

Mr. Earle B. Douglas,
Burlington, Iowa.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter addressed to the Hon. Edward D. Adams has been referred to me. The piece you ask about is a Swedish coin of Ulrika Eleonora of Sweden. Your coin is dated 1719 not 1710, because she did not rule until 1719. The V. E. R. S. are the initials of the ruler as queen (Regina) of Sweden (Svera). The piece would bring about five or ten cents. If you desire to send the coin for inspection , you are at liberty to do so, though that would seem hardly necessary.

As regards the reliability of the Society, I am sending, under separate cover, a copy of the Proceedings of the last annual meeting from which, you can draw such opinion as may seem to you warranted.

Very truly yours,

Director.